

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/990,527

Applicant(s)

SMITH, WALTER R.

Examiner

Chih-Ching Chow

Art Unit

2191

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 2/2/07.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-15.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date 3/23/07.
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☐ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

Examiner's Amendment and Statement of Reasons for Allowance

1. This action is responsive to Applicant's amendment filed February 2, 2007.

Examiner's Amendment

2. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mr. John Golian, Registration Number 54,702, on March 23, 2007 for obviating any potential 101 issues and put the claims in condition for allowance.

The application has been amended as follows:

1. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A method for obtaining information regarding events to be taking place within a software program to be used by a customer on a computing device, comprising:

including, for each of a number of selected events, an indicator within the software program that records the selected event, the indicator including a text string created by a software developer and descriptive of the selected event;

assigning and including within the software program a unique tag corresponding to each text string;

creating an index mapping each tag to the corresponding text string;

prior to retail sale, removing each text string from the software program;

releasing the software program, which includes the unique tags, for retail sale;

after releasing the software program for retail sale, receiving a file of events as indicated by at least a portion of the unique tags included in the software program, the file being created when the software program is run on the computing device used by the customer;

processing the file by using the index to map each unique tag in the file with its corresponding text string to generate a text string record of the events which took place within the software program; and

outputting ~~[[a]]~~ the text string record of the events which took place within the software program.

9. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A ~~computer-readable medium~~ computer storage media having computer-executable instructions for performing a method for obtaining information regarding events to be taking place within a software program to be used by a customer on a computing device, comprising:

searching for a text string within the software program created by a software developer and descriptive of a selected event;

assigning and including within the software program a unique tag corresponding to each text string found; and

creating an index mapping each tag to the corresponding text string; prior to retail sale, removing each text string from the software program;

releasing the software program, which includes the unique tags, for retail

sale;

after releasing the software program for retail sale, receiving a file of events as indicated by at least a portion of the unique tags included in the software program, the file being created when the software program is run on the computing device used by the customer;

processing the file by using the index to map each unique tag in the file with its corresponding text string to generate a text string record of the events which took place within the software program; and

outputting [[a]] the text string record of the events which took place within the software program.

10. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A computer system having a processor, a memory, and an operating environment, the computer system operable to execute a method for obtaining information regarding events to be taking place within a software program to be used by a customer on a computing device, comprising:

searching for a text string within the software program created by a software developer and descriptive of a selected event;

assigning and including within the software program a unique tag corresponding to each text string found;

creating an index mapping each tag to the corresponding text string;

prior to retail sale, removing each text string from the software program;

releasing the software program, which includes the unique tags, for retail sale;

after releasing the software program for retail sale, receiving a file of events as indicated by at least a portion of the unique tags included in the software program, the file being created when the software program is run on the computing device used by the customer;

processing the file by using the index to map each unique tag in the file with its corresponding text string to generate a text string record of the events which took place within the software program; and

outputting [[a]] the text string record of the events which took place within the software program.

11. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A method for recording program information, by a software provider, about events to be taking place within a software program executing on a computer to be used by a customer, comprising:

including, for each of a number of selected events, an indicator within the software program that records the selected event, the indicator including a text string created by a software developer and descriptive of the selected event;

coding the text string with a unique tag corresponding to each text string; creating a decoding file mapping each unique tag to the corresponding text string; and

prior to retail sale, removing each text string from the software

program;

releasing the software program, which includes the unique tags, for retail sale;

after releasing the software program for retail sale, receiving a file of events as indicated by at least a portion of the unique tags included in the software program, the file being created when the software program is run on the computer used by the customer;

processing the file by using the decoding file to map each unique tag in the file with its corresponding text string to generate a text string record of the events which took place within the software program; and

outputting [[a]] the text string record of the events which took place within the software program.

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The End

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3. Claims 1-15 are allowed.

4. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Chih-Ching Chow whose telephone number is 571-272-3693. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00am - 4:30pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Wei Zhen can be reached on 571-272-3708. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Chih-Ching Chow
Examiner
Art Unit 2191
March 27, 2007

CC


WEI ZHEN
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER